

09/677,476

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July 9, 2004
Date

Ellen Huffman
Ellen Huffman

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JUL 19 2004

Technology Center 2100

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Ripley, et al.	Art Unit: 2171
Application No.: 09/677,476	Examiner: Patrick Santos
Filed: 10/02/2000	Attorney Docket No.: 800433
Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR VISUALLY REPRESENTING HIERARCHICAL DATABASE OBJECTS AND THEIR SIMILARITY RELATIONSHIPS TO OTHER OBJECTS IN THE DATABASE	

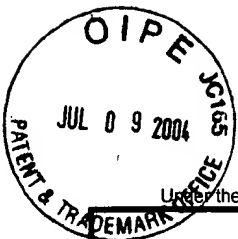
Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.111**Introductory Comments**

Dear Sir:

The Applicants thank the Office for the careful consideration given the application in the communication of April 9, 2004. Applicants have amended claims 1-4, 8-11, 13-16 and 18-19 to further distinguish Applicants' claimed invention and to enable allowance of these claims. Applicants have added new claims 20-25 and submitted formal substitute drawings in an enclosed communication. The Applicants believe that the claims, as amended, define over the references cited in the Office Action of April 9, 2004. Applicants contend that the cited references neither structurally nor more generally, suggest the claimed subject matter of

Applicants' claimed invention. Contrary to the Office's assertion of obviousness, all elements of Applicants' claims, as amended, are not disclosed in the cited references of Smith et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,594,673) in view of Wheeler et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,618,727). Therefore, the rejections are unsupported by the art and should be withdrawn. Applicants request reconsideration and examination of the application in view of the following amendments and discussion.



7-12-04

41 2171 \$

PTO/SB/21 (04-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	09/677476	RECEIVED JUL 19 2004 Technology Center 2100
	Filing Date	Oct 2, 2000	
	First Named Inventor	Ripley, John R.	
	Art Unit	2171	
	Examiner Name	Patrick Santos	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	63	Attorney Docket Number	800433

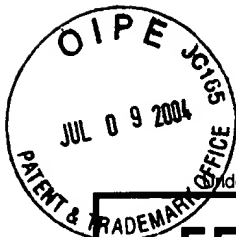
ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Technology Center (TC)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	-- postcard receipt
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	Remarks	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application		
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Taylor Russell & Russell, P.C.
Signature	Douglas D. Russell
Date	July 9, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING			
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Typed or printed name	Ellen Huffman		
Signature	Ellen Huffman	Date	July 9, 2004

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PTO/SB/17 (10-03)

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FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2004

Effective 10/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

☒ Applicant Claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$)**54.****Complete if Known**

Application Number 09/677476

Filing Date 10/2/2000

First Named Inventor Ripley, et al.

Examiner Name Patrick Santos

Art Unit 2171

Attorney Docket No. 800433

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METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)☐ Check ☒ Credit card ☐ Money Order ☐ Other ☐ None☐ Deposit AccountDeposit Account Number
Deposit Account Name

The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply)

☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below ☐ Credit any overpayments☐ Charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s)☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee

to the above-identified deposit account.

FEE CALCULATION**1. BASIC FILING FEE**

Large Entity Fee Code	Large Entity Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1001	770	2001	385	Utility filing fee	
1002	340	2002	170	Design filing fee	
1003	530	2003	265	Plant filing fee	
1004	770	2004	385	Reissue filing fee	
1005	160	2005	80	Provisional filing fee	

SUBTOTAL (1) (\$)**0****2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE**

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
Independent Claims	-20**= 6	X 9	= 54
Multiple Dependent Claims	-3**=	X	=

Large Entity Fee Code	Large Entity Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee Description
1202	18	2202	9	Claims in excess of 20
1201	86	2201	43	Independent claims in excess of 3
1203	290	2203	145	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
1204	86	2204	43	**Reissue independent claims over original patent
1205	18	2205	9	**Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

SUBTOTAL (2) (\$)**54.**

** or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

FEE CALCULATION (continued)**3. ADDITIONAL FEES**

Large Entity Fee Code	Large Entity Fee (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code	Small Entity Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1051	130	2051	65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
1052	50	2052	25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
1053	130	1053	130	Non-English specification	
1812	2,520	1812	2,520	For filing a request for <i>ex parte</i> reexamination	
1804	920*	1804	920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
1805	1,840*	1805	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1251	110	2251	55	Extension for reply within first month	
1252	420	2252	210	Extension for reply within second month	
1253	950	2253	475	Extension for reply within third month	
1254	1,480	2254	740	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255	2,010	2255	1,005	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401	330	2401	165	Notice of Appeal	
1402	330	2402	165	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
1403	290	2403	145	Request for oral hearing	
1451	1,510	1451	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
1452	110	2452	55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
1453	1,330	2453	665	Petition to revive - unintentional	
1501	1,330	2501	665	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
1502	480	2502	240	Design issue fee	
1503	640	2503	320	Plant issue fee	
1460	130	1460	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
1807	50	1807	50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
1806	180	1806	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
8021	40	8021	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1809	770	2809	385	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))	
1810	770	2810	385	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))	
1801	770	2801	385	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
1802	900	1802	900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	

Other fee (specify)

*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3) (\$)**0****SUBMITTED BY**

Complete (if applicable)

Name (Print/Type)	Douglas D. Russell	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	40152	Telephone	512-338-4601
Signature	<i>Douglas D. Russell</i>			Date	July 9, 2004

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